PLAS - O - GRAM <98-20> PLAS 9.0.2 Release is Resumed

PLAS Advocates,

An updated PLAS 9.0.2 has been released to the Districts for distribution to all employees. The original release begun in late October was intentionally halted during mid-deployment to incorporate several very worthwhile user suggestions. This re-deployment means that some employees will migrate from PLAS 9.0.1 to the new version, while others will convert to PLAS 9 directly from PLAS 8.2.8. Districts and CAOs will direct local deployment procedures.

What are the primary new features of PLAS 9?

PLAS Screen Changes: PLAS 9 contains a number of screen changes to accommodate the future interface with ATAAPS; they include a new Tour Data Screen to permit setup of a full pay period's start and end times.

New PLAS Report: PLAS 9 contains a new report called the Timecard Detail Report which is available to both employees and Supervisors. This report displays all PLAS inputs made during each day of a pay period.

SmartPLAS: To improve Unit Cost reporting accuracy, PLAS checks for valid combinations of Process, Program, and Contract Kind codes. A visual indicator on the line entry lights up as either Red, Yellow or Green indicating the validity of codes selected. Green and Yellow can be saved, although a Yellow provides a warning that the combination is unusual. Red cannot be saved until the codes are altered.

Smart Reimbursables: PLAS also checks validity of use of reimbursable DCNs based on the Process code selected. If the combination is allowable, it will be saved. If not, error messages will be presented.

Charge-Aheads: PLAS has been programmed to allow charging ahead to future dates only for certain codes, and only for certain periods of time. Time may be charged to any date in the current pay period.

What are the major differences between PLAS 9.0.1 and PLAS 9.0.2?

Local Program Codes: PLAS 9.0.2 now assigns SmartPLAS rules to all local programs. The rules used are the same as those for the national "Non-Program" code (HQ002). This eliminates a "Yellow" with local codes.

Optional Employee Certification Statement: The statement which was formerly hard coded is now selectable from the reports menu in PLAS 9.0.2. The option applies to both the existing Timecard Labor Exception report and the new Timecard Detail report.

Full Restore of Copied Data: When copying data from one day to the next, PLAS 9.0.2 again restores the full amount of information charged from the earlier day. PLAS 9.0.1 required reentry of selected fields.

The full details on these new features, including a current listing of SmartPLAS rules, will be posted to the Downloads page of the PLAS website (www.plas.dcmdc.dla.mil). Charging rules will be continually updated. Be sure to share this information with your associates!

Questions? Contact us at 1-888-PLASINFO or PLASHELP@mwest.dcmdc.dla.mil.

Respectfully,
Don Peterson
PLAS Program Manager